

May 2009

In This Issue

What is LAMP?

LAMP Subcommittee Updates:

Communications Subcommittee

Assessment Practices
Subcommittee

Literature Review
Subcommittee

Policy Focus

What's Next?

LAMP Webpage:

Visit our website for updates and
committee resources

www.dhe.mo.gov/lamp.shtml

Upcoming Meetings

Full LAMP Committee:

- Monday, May 11th

Recent LAMP meetings:

Assessment Practices
Subcommittee:

- January 2, 2009
- April 1, 2009

Literature Review Subcommittee:

- February 11, 2009
- March 2, 2009
- March 16, 2009
- March 25, 2009
- April 1, 2009

Communications Subcommittee

- December 18, 2008

LAMP Leadership

Hello!

Welcome to the second installment of the Learning Assessment in Missouri Postsecondary Education (LAMP) newsletter. This newsletter is sent to all LAMP members and other stakeholders on a periodic basis to provide updates on whole group and subcommittee progress. We hope this will keep all participants informed and up to date on our activities.

Thank you for your continued participation and efforts to inform assessment policy in Missouri.

What is LAMP?



For some reading this newsletter, you may be asking yourself: What exactly is LAMP? What is this group doing? What will be the impact of this work?

Recognizing that there are different levels of understanding about the work of LAMP, we have developed a primer that outlines the genesis and intent of the LAMP initiative. The LAMP Primer is available at: www.dhe.mo.gov/LAMP.

LAMP Subcommittee Updates

The LAMP Subcommittees have developed action plans and have been working to achieve identified goals. The Assessment Practices and Literature Review Subcommittees, in particular, have been hard at work in their respective groups. These efforts have been carried forth by core groups of dedicated participants. The information gathered and synthesized by the Subcommittees will serve as a foundation as the large group develops recommendations for the Commissioner by June 1, 2009. See below for updates on Subcommittee activities.



Assessment Practices Subcommittee:

The Assessment Practices Subcommittee has met several times over the last few months. In January 2009 they fielded a survey of assessment practices to all institutions in Missouri and have worked the past several months to code and analyze their results.

The Assessment Practices Subcommittee is working to finalize their draft report which reflects upon the infrastructure and general role of assessment practices in Missouri institutions, as reported in the Survey of Assessment Culture distributed to institutions in January 2009. The survey also collected additional information from

Rita Gulstad
Central Methodist University
Co-Chair, LAMP and Assessment
Practices Subcommittee

Jeff Lashley
Moberly Area Community College
Co-Chair, LAMP and
Communications Subcommittee

Michael Strait
University of Missouri-Kansas City
Co-Chair, LAMP and Literature
Review Subcommittee

MDHE Facilitators

Angelette Prichett
Research Associate, Academic
Affairs

Hillary Fuhrman
Research Associate, Academic
Affairs

Jeffrey Smith
Research Associate, Academic
Affairs

institutions regarding their opinions and policy recommendations related to a breadth of relevant assessment issues. This information will also be used to inform the subcommittee's final report.

Literature Review Subcommittee:

The Literature Review Subcommittee continues to work on finalizing the review of national best practices and has established an online database for review and annotation of assessment-related literature and a collaborative writing process for the production of their report.

Communications Subcommittee:

The Communication Subcommittee met on December 18th, 2008. The group developed an action plan to keep both internal and external constituents informed and identified next steps; however, issues surrounding budgeting issues at the state level in early 2009 required that work with outside constituents be slowed to allow focus on financial discussions.

Recently, the group developed a "LAMP Primer" and is working to keep LAMP participants engaged and informed through avenues such as this newsletter.

Policy Focus

With much of the foundation for policy recommendations set forth, the next step will focus on development of recommendations to be delivered to the Commissioner. Given the current policy environment, Commissioner Stein has asked that while the group should continue to develop policy recommendations in all initial focus areas, it should give priority to recommendations regarding access and placement into postsecondary education. The focus placed here will allow the CBHE to develop informed policy as statewide discussions and policy development has already begun. LAMP will continue its work to provide substantive information to assist in policymaker decision-making in all areas. The letter from Commissioner Stein outlining this request to LAMP is available at: www.dhe.mo.gov/LAMP.

What's Next?

With the work of the subcommittees nearing completion, the next step is for the subcommittees to meet together as a large group to consider the information gathered and its impact on the final recommendations to the Commissioner. The May 11th meeting will provide a forum for discussion and development of the June 1st report.

www.dhe.mo.gov • info@dhe.mo.gov

3515 Amazonas Drive, Jefferson City, MO 65109 • (573) 751-2361 • (800) 473-6757 • Fax (573) 751-6635